

REMARKS

Telephonic Inquiry

Following Applicants' submission under RCE of August 13, 2009, a telephonic inquiry, along with the Examiner's proposed amendment was received from the USPTO. An informal submission was emailed to the Examiner on September 1, 2009. This paper constitutes a formal submission under 37 CFR §1.111(2)(B) and (C).

Claims

Claims 1–6, 9, 10, 13–20 and 23–25 are pending of which claims 1–6, 9, 15–20 and 23–25 are under examination pursuant to the restriction requirement mailed April 15, 2008.

Claims 10, 13 and 14 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the aforementioned restriction requirement.

Claims 7–8 and 11–12 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6, 21, 22 and 26 are cancelled by this paper.

Claim 27 is added by this paper.

Amendments

Claims 1 and 4 in their amended form, explicitly recite the CD40/CD154 system inhibitor, and are supported by the disclosure contained in the Examples. See also original claim 6, which is cancelled hereby without prejudice or disclaimer. In order to facilitate prosecution, the claims have been further amended to delete superfluous claim language and to recite active method steps. No agreement is to be implied.

Dependent claims 15–17 and 20, 24 and 25 have been amended to use claim language which is consistent with the independent claims.

New claim 27 is identical to claim 20, except it is dependent on independent claim 4. Support for the new claim can be found in, for example, the disclosure contained in the Examples. It is submitted that the new claim does not raise new issues, which would require a further search of the claimed subject matter. Entry thereof is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments do not recite new matter.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues which could be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/Sagun KC/

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